GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1038
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2002
QUICK ASSISTANCE IN RAIL ACCIDENTS
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether assistance takes at least four hours to reach at any rail accident site if it occurs at night time;

(b) if so, whether there is no emergency train for the running staff or station managements at all in handling accidents and the need to rush medical assistance;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any institution is likely to be identified to train all railway personnel on trains and at stations to anticipate accidents and act immediately on information; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIST RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a) to (e) : A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TOPART (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARREDQUESTIONNO.1038 BY SHRI ABRAHMANAIAH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07-03-2002 REGARDING QUICK ASSISTANCE IN RAIL ACCIDENTS.

(a) No, Sir. The time for assistance to reach any accident site depends upon the distance of the site from the nearest location where Accident Relief Medical Vans (ARMVs) and Accident Relief Trains (ARTs) are based.

(b) & (c) ARMVs and ARTs are normally based at major junction stations 200 - 250 Kms. apart. Nominated staff who are specifically trained for this purpose are also headquartered at these stations.

In case of an accident ARMVs and ARTs are immediately alerted and despatched to the accident site within the shortest possible time along with assigned staff. In case the accident site is accessible by road, assistance is rushed by road also. Each station has a list of local doctors and hospitals of the area along with their telephone numbers, who are immediately alerted in case of an accident.

(d) & (e) Railway personnel are imparted training in various Training Institutes on Zonal Railways and the training includes training in rescue and relief operations. Mock drills are also conducted from time to time to check alertness of staff in responding to emergencies.